

PHILATELY

from

AUSTRALIA



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DR W. P. HESLOP, F.R.P.S.L.

One of the best-known figures in Australian philately, Dr. W. P. Heslop, of Melbourne, died in March, after a life-long association with the hobby. He had been a member of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria for 63 years.

He joined the Prahran Philatelic Society in 1908 and at the age of 17, represented it at the First Australasian Philatelic Congress and Exhibition at Sydney in 1911. He was also at the Australian National Philatelic Exhibition in Sydney in 1970.

Dr Heslop joined the Philatelic Society of Victoria on January 15, 1920, on his return from the War, and "The Doc" became known to everybody. His first display was in 1922.

He collected Australian States and gained a number of Gold Medals, his successes peaking when he won the Grand Championship at the Melbourne International Philatelic Exhibition (MIPEX, 1963).

Dr Heslop also became a member of The Royal Philatelic Society, London, in 1950 and was elected to Fellowship in 1959.

In World War I, he was a pilot in No. 3 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps, and on his return home, transferred to the Infantry, reaching the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel as Commanding Officer of the Melbourne University Rifles, 1934-38.

After graduating in 1926, he established his practice at Clifton Hill, a district that suffered severely during the Great Depression, where it is remembered that he did not send out many accounts because he knew the patients could not afford to pay.

He was a quiet man, a friendly man who could find little to say. But he had an inner tenderness and was almost pathetically grateful for any kindness shown him.

On his retirement in 1977 he settled in Wangaratta and before he left Melbourne, the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria gave him a complimentary dinner at the Hotel Windsor in appreciation of his long membership and in recognition of his status as a philatelist.

There Dr Heslop passed around a photograph of the 1911 Congress and named everyone in it.

The Heslops are a very close-knit family and not without their own philatelic in-

terest, as the number of Guillaux Melbourne-Sydney, 1914 air mail cards addressed to Heslops attest.

He sold his collection some time before his retirement. Later a friend saw him bidding spiritedly at a stamp auction. "I thought you had sold your collection," the friend said. Dr Heslop smiled. "I was told I had only a few months to live, so I sold it." He lived for some years, a collector to the last, a man to whom stamps had been a never-ending pleasure.

He will be remembered with regard and with affectionate respect.

H.L.C.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN GARTNER — ASH WEDNESDAY SUFFERERS

Mr. John Gartner, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L., one of Australia's best-known philatelists, and Mrs Zelma Gartner were victims of the Ash Wednesday fires in Victoria and miraculously escaped with their lives.

Their 54 square home at Mount Macedon, was hit by a fireball about 10.35 pm and demolished with virtually everything they possessed.

Mr. Gartner was asleep, but fortunately Mrs. Gartner was up when the fire "fell out of the sky." Mr. Gartner pulled on shorts and slippers and Mrs. Gartner, a cotton dress, briefs, and sandals. Within two minutes of the fire striking, they ran to the back stairs and found their way blocked by fire. Mrs. Gartner ran back upstairs and grabbed two pure wool blankets which they wrapped around themselves and they ran 40 yards through the flames and jumped into the swimming pool.

They stayed in the pool for three hours, with the blankets over their heads and burning debris falling all around them.

After another hour on a burnt seat, they made their way down the drive, through burning trees, to the roadway, where a volunteer fire-fighter found them.

Mr. Gartner is a Fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society, as well as a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, and a distinguished Australian book-collector. His stamps, coins, banknotes, books and bookplate collection were all destroyed. Mrs. Gartner lost her jewellery, including her wedding ring, her shells, paintings, miniature books, and snuff bottles. The car and Mr. Gartner's private printing press were also destroyed.

H.L.C.

MORE ABOUT THE AUSTRALIAN KING GEORGE V PENNY REDS

By REV. E. KEITH DITTERICH, M.B.E.

In December, 1979, my article "The Missing Penny Reds" was published in *Philately from Australia*.

The article deplored the fact that so many of the old numbers relating to the King George V Australian penny reds, as recorded in the *Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue* of 1952, had been phased out by 1979.

Worse was to come, however, because the 1981 Catalogue attempted an even more drastic "simplification" reducing the penny reds to a new numbering, V.16-V.36, with variations in colour extremely limited in scope. The editors, however, in 1982, wisely re-introduced the former numbering of 1979 as an alternative for use by serious collectors. The V. numbers were preserved for those who desired to adopt them.

The "Eosin" problem

In the last few years there has been some confusion created in the market by the offer of some specimens classified as penny eosins, in many shades such as pink, salmon, magenta and mauve eosin.

The 1952 Catalogue did classify No. G.27 as "Salmon Eosin" and added in brackets "(Pink eosin, red eosin)." Some collectors have regretted that the words shown in brackets were omitted from later editions, but, with a reliable interpretation of the meaning of the word "eosin" the omissions have been justified.

If the penny reds of the G.26-G.29 group are lamped, many variations of colour appear and sometimes there is fluorescence but, except in the case of G.27, Salmon Eosin itself, they cannot be classified as eosin because they lack the distinctive salmon-pink shade and a golden fluorescence under the ultra-violet lamp.

The definition of "eosin" by Oxford is: "red fluorescent dye-stuff used in Microscopy and Colour Photography." Webster describes it as "a yellowish or brownish red dyestuff obtained by the action of bromide on fluorescin and named from the fine rose-red it imparts to silk."

There could, of course, be shades of eosin, and Colenso Blogg, in his massive list, in the Numbers Z.163-Z.165, mentions "eosine" and "eosine with a yellow" and "eosine with a pink tinge" and his classification may have been the source of the old G.27 with the notation in brackets.

The question must come down to definitions and that can only be settled, not merely from the dictionary, nor from Colenso Blogg, but from stamps which were issued, not accidentally (as was G.27) but deliberately as eosin. Specimens of such stamps may be found from Heligoland in Michel Numbers 14c and 18d (1½pf and 2½pf; issued 1875 and 1876). When lamped, these act even more vigorously than the G.27 itself, and they certainly have a vivid golden colour when lamped and the eosin colour when viewed normally.

Thus the real test of eosinity, as far as the Catalogue is concerned, is vivid golden fluorescence when lamped.

There is eosinity in a Western Australian penny stamp, No. 139 in Stanley Gibbons, but the stamp is shown as being rose-pink and it does not have quite the same outward appearance of a G.27, yet it has the distinctive golden fluorescence.

There are, of course, some very attractive G.28 shades of pink, which fluoresce in varying shades, under the lamp, but they do not have the essential golden iridescence, nor are they salmon eosin in outward appearance.

In the smooth paper shades, at least, there is not clear ground for the words which were, in brackets, formerly added to the G.27 Salmon eosin.

The Rough Paper Fluorescent Shades

The A.C.S.C., in a footnote, states that there is marked reaction under the lamp in the rough papers issued early in 1918, and research shows most, if not all, of the old numbers G.66 (Pink), G.67 (Rose-pink), and G.68 (Reddish Rosine) to be fluorescent. The typical G.69 O.S., however, is not fluorescent and in the case of G.68, some are, and some are not. *The admixture of the material causing fluorescence was thus temporary and sporadic.*

Here again, some collectors have taken the view that these rough paper issues should be classified as eosin. If so, they are still different from the orthodox G.27, both in outward appearance and when lamped. Numbers G.66,67 and the old G.72½ (Bright Salmon Red, Dull Salmon Red, issued March 1918) fluoresce brightly; indeed the reaction under the lamp is more vigorous than that of G.27, but the necessary golden reaction is not there. G.27 is much yellower, both in outward appearance, and under the lamp, than the rough paper emissions.

Whether this rough paper iridescence was due to eosin is hard to prove; but if so, it is still different from that of G.27. It is safer to take the view that there are rough paper pinks and salmons which are iridescent (or fluorescent) but to make a distinction between them and G.27. The rule would then be: *"all eosin stamps show a golden reaction when lamped; but not all stamps which are fluorescent (or iridescent) when lamped are eosin."* Apart from the lamping, the external colour of G.27 sets it apart from the others.

The Large Multiple Watermark Penny Reds

The penny reds in this group also vary a great deal. A.C.S.C. G.101 Carmine Pink, Cooke printing, shows varying degrees of fluorescence when lamped (sometimes quite golden), but there is not an outward shade like that of G.27, Salmon Eosin.

The later Cooke printings (G.102 and 103) and the Harrison printings G.104ff. do not have the same tendency.

Conclusion

The penny reds of late 1917 and early 1918, as far as fluorescence under the lamp is concerned, may be classified as follows:—

1. The vast majority will not fluoresce under the lamp. (Nos G.24, 25, 30, 31; G.69, 70, 72, 73ff.)
2. A small minority will show marked fluorescence and these may be divided as follows:
 - a. Those which fluoresce in varying colours; mainly the pink shades of G.28 or close to it; also some G.101 (Carmine Pinks).
 - b. The rough paper issues of G. 66-68, which do not fluoresce in a golden shade but in pink or rose-pink.
 - c. The rough paper issue known originally as G.72½ (Dull or Bright Salmon) with very striking deep salmon-pink reaction, much deeper than G.27, both in outward appearance and in fluorescence.
 - d. No. G.27, smooth paper, Salmon Eosin, which fluoresces a vivid gold when lamped and has a distinctive salmon-pink shade when examined with the naked eye.

To separate the Salmon Eosin G.27 from the rest, however, is not to denigrate them. All are interesting, hard to find, and many are scarce indeed, especially in Die 2.



The Other Side of the Picture



By G. T. WHITE, F.R.P.S.L.

VICTORIAN HANDSTAMPS AND OBLITERATORS

While glancing through the "Register of Requisitions for Stores" from 1865-1867, which is in the Australian Archives in Melbourne, I came across some entries which may be of interest to others.

Perhaps the best way to present this information is in more or less chronological order. Thomas Stokes was the contractor until 30.6.1865 when G. T. Leverett took over.

From the list dated 10.4.1865 we note:

1. All daily stamps and (numeral) obliterations were of steel. The other stamps were made of brass.

2. During the quarter ending 31.3.1865, twelve "new" offices were opened and supplied with stamps and obliterations. these comprised:

McIntyre which used numeral 188

Marysville which used numeral 487

Pettavel, etc. using numerals 510-518

Grant which finally used numeral 539 (see below)

3. Also in the first quarter of 1865, 74 brass datestamps were altered from the year "64" to "65". Matlock, which used 474, was listed under "replace and recut", from which I deduce that numeral 474 was a brass stamp.

Brass stamps "Received Open at Inglewood" and "Not Known by Letter Carriers" were supplied to Inglewood.

Steel oval datestamps "Up Train" and "Down Train", four of each, were ordered.

In the quarter ending 30.6.1865, Stokes supplied three sets of stamps for Cape Clear (520), Longerong (519), and Healesville (521). He also resoldered the Horsham datestamp.

In the third quarter of 1865 the contractor for manufacture and repairs was G. T. Leverett, who supplied 13 steel obliterations and datestamps for Post Offices using numerals 522-532.

From the above and some further references to repairs and recuts, and assuming that the entries are correct, it can be concluded that if Grant was initially allocated 539 when it opened, then that opening must have been delayed from early 1865 to late 1865. This means that Stokes supplied one extra numeral to Stores. During the next quarter three further sets of stamps were supplied by Stokes; at this stage Stores had one surplus number in stock, and assuming it to be the last one cast, it was 522. G. T. Leverett is said to have supplied a set of stamps for Happy-Go-Lucky; this P.O. received 522 which, I think, was produced by Stokes. There is a marked difference in the shape of the "5's" up to and including 522, and that of 524 (523 has not been seen).

A further conclusion is that the obliterations supplied by Stokes in the last quarter

of 1864 and perhaps slightly earlier were all made of steel. It is known that 474 was a brass stamp (see note 3 above). Assuming that all these "thick figure" stamps were brass, then it is probable that the batch up to and including 484 (illustrated in *Barred Numeral Cancellations*) were all brass, and the type from 485 on were steel and remained so for at least several years.

A few more interesting items noted in the "Register" were:

1. In the March quarter of 1867 a batch of 26 stamps reading "Post town not known in Victoria" were supplied.

2. In the third quarter of 1867 two interesting sets of stamps were supplied and paid for, reading "Insufficiently paid via Marseilles" and "Insufficiently paid via Trieste". This latter item has not been recorded as seen on mail to England, as no arrangements were in force for this to occur. Here I assume that the G.P.O. instruction of 16.3.1864 would still be in force. This read: "No arrangements have been made for the transmission of mails from Australia to U.K. via Trieste. You are requested to take notice that correspondence for U.K. cannot be forwarded by that route in future". The best place to look for this "Trieste" stamp would, in my opinion, be on covers from Melbourne to Austria, Germany and perhaps Holland.

BOOK REVIEWS

Postage Stamps and Postal History of Western Australia. Volume II. The Melbourne Printings 1902-1912, by Mogens Juhl, F.R.P.S.L. 88pp. 14 x 21.5cm. Published by the author and available from Svemo Trading Pty. Ltd., 71 Avalon Pde., Avalon Beach, N.S.W., 2107. Price, \$12.75, including postage.

This volume follows closely upon Volume I and speaks a lot for the author's dedication and industry.

The subject tackled — the Commonwealth period — is one which has been almost entirely neglected in the past. Before the appearance of the W.A. Study Group's handbook in 1979, the only publication of importance had been by J. R. W. Purves, and this covered only certain technical aspects and plate-making in the high values. The 1979 book carried an outline account based on the present author's researches to that date, but the present volume vastly amplifies and corrects that work, and renders the 1979 chapter obsolete.

Introductory chapters cover the transfer of stamp printing to Melbourne, and the papers, perforations and punctured officials. Particular attention has been paid to the compound perf. varieties, and it is obvious, from the author's account, that the catalogue does not yet reflect the true rarity of these stamps as it does in, for example, Victoria.

There follows a value by value account detailing the printings, with attention paid to the shades, perforations and periods of use. In this regard, as collectors of Victoria well know, the Melbourne records are scanty. Nevertheless, together with some recent discoveries in this direction by Brian Pope, all the available records have been compared with the stamps themselves to provide an accurate division of printings.

The author acknowledges his indebtedness to Purves' writings on the Commonwealth period stamps of South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria, and collectors of these stamps in their turn should study this volume and learn from the W.A. experience.

The only omission is any discussion of the plate flaws. The author considers these a side issue irrelevant to the history of the stamps, and more suited to publication in the periodical literature. It is to be hoped that one day such a study will make an appearance.

Finally, the interest created by Volume I has generated a 10-page supplement to that work, detailing new discoveries made by the author or communicated to him by other collectors.

Capital Philately. Vol. 1, No. 1. November 1982. 26 pp. 17.5 x 25cm. Published by the Philatelic Society of Canberra, P.O. Box 382, Civic Square, A.C.T., 2608. Subscription, \$10 per year.

Sub-titled the "Journal of the Philatelic Society of Canberra", *Capital Philately* is under the able editorship of well-known Canberra philatelist Alan Salisbury.

Inaugurated to provide a forum for the Society's members, the first number shows promise for the future.

There is a useful article on Kadavu (Fiji) by A. R. Tippett, which will be of lasting value. The other contributions are of a more general nature, with articles on British perfins, Ireland, the 5/- Sydney Harbour Bridge stamp, and philatelic literature.

Capital Philately has appeared in the fiftieth year of the Society's existence. It is well-produced by offset printing on good quality paper.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA POSTAL STATIONERY

A comment by MOGENS JUHL, F.R.P.S.L.

It is a beautifully — and expensively — presented and very well illustrated publication the Western Australia Study Group has issued about the Postal Stationery printed by De La Rue from 1879 and at Melbourne from 1902.

Regardless of how attractive the packaging is of any product the judgement of its quality rests on its contents. In this regard the important question is whether the authors, Brian Pope and Phil Thomas, present new and hitherto unknown items of Postal Stationery? The answer is that they only recognize the same 49 items they treated in Chapter 11 in *Western Australia. The Stamps and Postal History*.

The authors ought to have done better in three very important instances: two items (at least), both known to them, deserve separate catalogue numbers, while a third item is placed in a wrong section.

The first item is an addition to the envelopes, but before I deal with it the following two observations are necessary:

Firstly, the authors correctly split the ½d Postcard in PC 1 chestnut on salmon, PC 6 chestnut on white and PC 7 sepia on white. The latter I found in 1975 and called grey-brown and with that name it was borrowed for the Perth book page 159. It is now given the better name sepia. These are clearly different in colour and time of issue.

Secondly, they split the 2d Envelope into EN 2 yellow and EN 3 orange. Here the split in time is absent, but there is a difference in the colour used for the earliest printing(s?). On page 64 also lemon-yellow is mentioned.

Turning now to EN 1 1d Envelope the authors say on page 31 that the printing was in Red in shades ranging from Pale Pink to Carmine, that they are similar to the adhesive stamps and that the rich Carmine shade comes in 1912. On page 64 they mention that the Red envelopes are printed on laid paper and the Carmine on wove paper.

It is not correct when the authors state that the range of red shades is similar to the adhesive stamps. The earliest known date of use, 3 October 1902, borrowed from my collection, has no similarity with the first carmine printings of the stamp, see my Volume II, page 36. Envelopes were at that stage printed in rose, a shade used for the third group of the stamp value and issued from April 1903.

The difference between the rose and the carmine envelopes is much more pronounced than between chestnut and sepia and between yellow and orange. To conform with the system adopted by the authors this point alone underlines the need for a division in catalogue numbers.

Also the difference in paper quality makes a division a philatelic necessity. The authors write about laid versus wove paper on page 64, but a surprising lack of coordination make them miss the point even though they mention on page 66 that the "widely spaced lines" are absent in wrappers.

The early envelopes were produced from watermarked paper showing parallel lines, 25mm apart, running lengthwise in the paper. In addition and at right angles to these are visible laid lines, one mm apart; they are caused by the mesh of the underfelt.

The watermark and the laid lines are running in the diagonal direction because

due to the rhomboid format of the unfolded paper this provided the most economic cut from the paper roll. It was a commercial paper and I have several envelopes used in South Australia and Victoria. The earliest was mailed 24 FE 1862 in Adelaide and shows its British origin, being embossed Parkins & Grotto, Makers, 24 & 25 Oxford Street. Another from 28 JY 1881 is embossed James Williams, Stationer, Adelaide, while yet another from 9 MY 1882 indicate that Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., Farrington Road, London had taken over the production. Similar envelopes in a slightly different way of folding exist, but these show the watermark lines 30 mm apart.

A Penny envelope printed in carmine on unwatermarked paper most certainly deserves its separate catalogue number.

The second item to deal with is the Facsimile OS at present catalogued as envelope EN 6.

The authors tell us on page 66 that laid paper was used for wrappers showing vertical or horizontal lines, but not "widely spaced lines". These two directions are obviously due to the rectangular shape of wrappers.

In the tabulation on page 64 they state that they only know Facsimile OS on vertically laid paper - my copy shows the same- and on page 92 they catalogue the item as EN 6 stating that it is only known as a cut-out.

How remarkable that they have not realized that the vertical laid lines reveal that Facsimile OS was not an envelope, but a wrapper and that EN 6 has to be replaced by a new WR 7 (No-line border).

The third item to deal with is the Government Statistician's Reply Card relegated to page 105.

In my opinion that is a fair dinkum item in line with the Facsimile OS wrapper, which, for all we know, could also have been issued for a particular official purpose. It has to be added as a new RC 4 in the catalogue.

More items?

The above plays havoc with the catalogue and I am not certain the end of that side of the story has been reached.

The authors took a correct stance when dividing the colours of ½d postcards and 2d envelopes, but then they also have to be consistent. My material does not enable me to go further. However, it would not surprise me if a carmine 1d envelope exists on watermarked paper. I also note that the authors on page 42 mention that PC 9 comes in distinct shades of blue, and how about the blue 2d Letter Cards?

Technical matters

I suspect that chapter 4, Technical Matters, is the real reason why the authors have written the book, and for the serious specialist it makes interesting reading. Particularly the Melbourne Zinco stands out as a fine piece of philately.

The authors have gone to great lengths to describe and illustrate the components of the printing plates, but scarcity of material makes it almost impossible to make control checks. I have severe doubts about the damaged and repaired sets described on page 50. It is very hard to believe that some tiny flaws, and not several others, would have been repaired, quite apart from the difficulties the platemaker would have been faced with undertaking such a job.

I am also unhappy when I see the authors use the term DIE on what is in fact ELECTROS, which means that the illustrations merely show the equivalent of plate-flaws in postage stamp plates. Many of the flaws are indeed miniscule. I have a card on which there are a number of dots in the upper border, much like those shown as LH-C and LO-Ci, and which I suspect is also a recurring flaw.

It is not exactly easy to read the book, because I do not see why chapters 1 and

6 are not either combined or following upon each other, presenting the readers with a systematic historical introduction. It would also have made reading easier had chapters 2, 3 and 8 been combined, because readers of the two former will quickly lose the thread unless they constantly check with the illustrations in chapter 8.

The repetitious "Issued?" and "General usage to?" in the catalogue headings ought to have been omitted. Issue dates are only known for PC 1, 2 and 4, while end of usage is only known in two cases and they are both omitted. They are PC 4 used to 31 December 1890 and PC 3 used to 30 September 1891. First the 3d and then the 2d card was left without an applicable postage rate; they were really made obsolete by default. That I mentioned in my Volume I, pages 102-03 and with good reason as a warning against late philatelic use. I have a 2d card cancelled 6 July 1892, but such an item cannot be awarded an E rating.

I agree with the authors that Postal Stationery items are scarce, but the A to E ratings do not enlighten the readers as nowhere is there the slightest indication of how scarce. Does E = Very rare mean 1-5 or 1-10 copies recorded?

Only three items (PC 1, 2, 5) are A = Common and only four (PC 6, 13, 14, 15) are B = Uncommon. I have quite often come across PC 3 and 4 rated C = Scarce.

EN 2 Specimen is rated X = Not known, but on page 78 it is mentioned. Likewise EN 7 is also rated X, but stated to be known 9 September 1912. That could be from a cut-out and perhaps the scarcity of material warrants that they be given a niche as collectables; for research they are essential. Are the Newspaper Wrappers, rated D = Rare and E = Very rare, really so common that it is possible on page 33 to state that they were printed on a tremendous range of papers?

What happened to the ½d red-brown cut-outs mentioned on page 159 in the Perth book? Could they perhaps be never issued wrappers?

New are the extracts from De La Rue's Day Books bringing the list of deliveries and quantities and the Register Inwards Correspondence from Western Australia recording deliveries 1902-08. They appear in appendices i and ii, but little, if anything, of what could be extracted from these sources has been commented on in the text. For example, the authors should have been able to write a more interesting account of the Registered Envelopes, as they know sufficient early dates to point the way. General usage to a certain time is rarely of significance, but for the record I extend the use of RE 4 from 1911 to 8 SP 1913 at Toodyay.

The 1½d postcard PC 19 is said only to be known mint and with reference cancellation 29 MR 1912. Again just for the record, it exists also cancelled this way on 23 DE 1912.

New are also appendices v and vi which list by post offices and year numbers of post cards forwarded or posted. I fail to understand the meaning of the 14 pages of three elaborate sets of tables and nowhere in the book do the authors reveal the purpose.

The book is a thought provoking addition to the literature for the lucky few who have postal stationery from Western Australia, but unfortunately it contains errors which should not have occurred and research not fully thought through. In the final judgement the contents of the book did not quite measure up to the elegant packaging.

VICTORIA: THE ½d STAMP DUTY 1886-1900

By J. R. W. PURVES and G. N. KELLOW

(Continued from March 1983, p.14)

Printings in Pink and Red Shades from Plates 1 and 2

The change of colour of the ½d stamp from grey to pink was triggered by a complaint from the Postmistress at Williamstown:

James Smibert Act. D.P.M.G.

Williamstown
15.12.86

Sir,

I respectfully desire to bring under your notice that I find the new halfpenny stamp causes a great delay in the despatching of mails on account of the colour being so similar to the printing of the papers as the public invariably affix them to the printed portion of newspaper.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your Obedient Servant
(Sgd) M. K. Oldham PM

This letter was referred to the Controller of Stamps, Mr. J. H. Gibbs, who sent a Memorandum to the Superintendent of the Mail Branch, Mr. Slack, on 20.12.1886:

Would the Supt. Mail Branch find it more convenient if the ½d stamp was of a darker colour.

Slack replied in the affirmative, and consequently Gibbs wrote to the Deputy P.M.G. with his suggestion on 22.12.1886:

Halfpenny stamps prior to the attached (grey ½d attached — GNK) were in red ink same as the 4d, 8d, 1/6, 4/-. The colour was changed as it was thought so many red stamps would be inconvenient both in their sale and use. It now appears that a bolder colour is necessary, the public and many of the offices having complained and it is suggested that Mr. Ferres be requested to submit specimens of darker colours.

This course was approved by the P.M.G., Mr. F. T. Derham, and Smibert wrote to the Government Printer on 24.12.1886:

Will the Govt. Printer be so good as to submit specimens of the halfpenny stamp of more pronounced colours for the consideration of the Hon. P.M.G.

The reply was sent on 30.12.1886:

Two specimens herewith. No. 1 is a cheap colour and works well. It will be necessary to print Halfpenny stamps tomorrow. Please return as soon as possible.

The two specimens referred to were apparently attached to the file at the Government Printing Office seen by Purves. In his extracts he describes them as die proofs on unwatermarked paper. No. 1 was in pink (the adopted colour) and No. 2 was in mauve. The following minutes appended to the file record the decision:

It is suggested colour No. 1 be used. JHG Contr of Stps 5/1/87.

Recommended. JS 5/1/87.

Approved. F. T. Derham 5/1/87.

DPMG to Govt Printer. Ministerial approval for the alteration of colour of the ½d stamp herewith. 5/1/87.

The question of colour was apparently reviewed several months later, because below the above minutes appear two more:

The stamp is now printed as requested and I understand that the colour is satisfactory. Govt Printer to DPMG. 24/6/87.

The colour is satisfactory. JHG Cont Stps 26/6/87.

This completes the correspondence concerning the change of colour.

There is no separate entry in the strongroom book for the first printing in pink. The printing records indicate it took place between 11.1.1887 and 31.1.1887, using an ink described by the printer as "anti-carmine", and consisted of 8500 sheets of 240 (2,040,000 stamps). As we have seen, the plates were taken from the strongroom for the second grey printing on 10.12.1886 and not returned until 1.2.1887, so the plates were already in the printing room for this first printing in pink. Incidentally, as there is no record of steel punch being taken from the strongroom at the this time, Purves may be in error in describing the two colour trials prepared as die proofs rather than plate proofs.

The first printing in pink was delivered into stock on 9.2.1887, and Rundell noted the date of issue recorded in the "Official Album" to be 15.2.1887.

There is evidence of a further 37 printings in various pink and red shades from Plates 1 and 2. All these printings were on wmk. V over Crown (V2) paper, and all were from the two plates used together, but the printing quantities of only three of them are available (from the perforating records):

Date of Issue from Strongroom	Date of Return to Strongroom	Perforation
16.5.1887	3.6.1887	
8.8.1887	5.9.1887	
16.11.1887	12.12.1887	
3.12.1888	10.12.1888	11.12.1888-8.1.1889 10800 sheets of 120 = 1,296,000 stamps
17.1.1889	23.1.1889	18.1.1889 200 sheets of 120 = 24,000 stamps
5.2.1889	19.2.1889	19.2.1889-9.4.1889 20,000 sheets of 120 = 2,400,000 stamps
1.6.1889	13.6.1889	
15.8.1889	28.8.1889	
15.10.1889	19.10.1889	
7.1.1890	23.1.1890	
19.3.1890	15.4.1890	
30.6.1890	25.7.1890	
26.9.1890	1.10.1890	
2.12.1890	5.12.1890	
23.12.1890'	29.1.1891	
28.2.1891	11.3.1891	
24.6.1891	8.7.1891	
14.9.1891	6.10.1891	
17.12.1891	22.12.1891	
11.2.1892	18.2.1892	
30.5.1892	2.6.1892	
30.7.1892	9.8.1892	

Date of Issue from Strongroom	Date of Return to Strongroom
18.10.1892	11.11.1892
29.11.1892	3.12.1892
10.2.1893	15.2.1893
1.5.1893	8.5.1893
16.6.1893	28.6.1893
10.11.1893	14.11.1893
6.12.1893	11.12.1893
13.1.1894	23.1.1894
8.3.1894	12.3.1894
5.7.1894	10.7.1894
15.8.1894	20.8.1894
16.11.1894	3.12.1894
12.2.1895	15.2.1895
16.5.1895	22.5.1895
29.5.1895	30.5.1895

The 1895 Reprint in Grey

The final entry above has been included, following Purves, among the pink printings. The present author believes, however, there is good evidence that it does not represent the printing of any pink stamps, but rather the (once infamous) reprint of the ½d grey. It is noteworthy that the issue of the plates occurred within 1-2 weeks of the last printing and that the plates were out of the strongroom for only one day, indicating a relatively small printing. Purves did extract the gumming and perforating records for this reprint — on 31.5.1895 and 1.6.1895 50 sheets of 240 were gummed, and on 1-2.6.1895 100 sheets of 120 were perforated, giving a total of 12,000 stamps.

Although the strongroom book shows that "240 electros" (i.e., both Plates 1 and 2) were issued on 29.5.1885, only one was used for printing, since the watermark on these stamps is found facing each way. In fact, an examination of plate flaws shows it was Plate 1 that was employed.

These reprints (together with the 4d and 1/- "Stamp Duty" opts., and 1/6 blue Stamp Duty, produced around the same time) were not overprinted REPRINT like the 1891 reprints of obsolete issues. The distinctions between the originals and the reprints were given by Purves in *Victoria: The V over Crown Watermarks*, p. 23.

The originals all have the wmk. facing left (being printed from double plates), whereas the reprints have the wmk. facing both ways in equal quantities. The shade of the reprints is paler than the originals, and the perforations are clean-cut in the reprints, but rather rough in the originals.

Introduction of Plates 3 and 4

Retouching, particularly on Plate 1, had weakened the first two plates somewhat. On 6.7.1895 "one steel punch" was issued from the strongroom, and returned on 16.8.1895. The punch was used to make 240 moulds from which were produced two new electrotype plates of 120 (Plates 3 and 4). Plates 1 and 2 were discarded and never reappear. The philatelic evidence suggests that no printing was immediately made from Plates 3 and 4, and they were placed in the strongroom.

Subsequently three printings are recorded from Plates 3 and 4 used together:

Date of Issue from Strongroom	Date of Return to Strongroom
23.8.1895	28.8.1895
16.12.1895	27.12.1895
2.3.1896	5.3.1896

All are on wmk. V over Crown (V2) paper. Stamps from Plates 3 and 4 were probably first issued in September 1895. Dated copies of the period until 14.11.1895 (when Melbourne circular date-stamps were introduced) are rather difficult to find, and the first printing somewhat resembles a printing from Plates 1 and 2, so the philatelic evidence of the date of introduction depends on finding a dated copy showing a characteristic plate flaw from Plate 3 or 4. The earliest known is 11.12.1895.

The third printing was in a distinctive pale scarlet shade (the catalogue calls it "vermilion"), the earliest known date being 29.3.1896.

Introduction of Plates 5 and 6

The March 1896 printing was the last on wmk. V over Crown (V2) paper. Its successor, the V3 paper, was supplied in sheets of 480 wmk., and for the commonly used values ($\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1d, 2d) it was decided to use a block of 4 plates to print these sheets in one operation.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ d steel punch was taken from the strongroom on 30.5.1896 and returned on 3.7.1896. This was unquestionably for the purpose of stamping the necessary moulds for Plates 5 and 6. However, before these plates were ready the V2 paper became exhausted, and the first two printings on V3 paper were from "240 electros" only, using Plates 3 and 4 (as indicated by the plate flaws found). These two printings are:

Date of Issue from Strongroom	Date of Return to Strongroom
15.6.1896	24.6.1896
13.7.1896	31.7.1896

The earliest date known of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d on V3 paper is 1.7.1896. This first printing was in scarlet, lightly inked. The second printing was in a deep scarlet shade, with very full inking.

Printings then began from the four plates used together, though on two occasions two plates only were used. The relevant strongroom book entries, up to the end of the life of the pink stamp, are:

Date of Issue from Strongroom	Item Issued	Date of Return to Strongroom
7.12.1896	480 electros	11.12.1896
16.2.1897	480 electros	22.2.1897
18.5.1897	480 electros	22.5.1897
29.7.1897	120 electros	2.4.1898
21.10.1897	360 electros	25.10.1897

Date of Issue from Strongroom	Item Issued	Date of Return to Strongroom
11.1.1898	360 electros	13.1.1898
3.3.1898	480 electros	11.3.1898
28.4.1898	240 electros	11.5.1898
7.6.1898	480 electros	14.6.1898
10.11.1898	240 electros	11.11.1898
23.11.1898	480 electros	21.12.1898
25.3.1899	480 electros	5.4.1899

Notes:

1. The "120 electros" taken out on 29.7.1898. Mr Purves does not consider this to be for printing, and why one plate was taken from the strongroom is a mystery (was it for repair?). However, it was not returned for more than nine months.

During this period two printings were made by obtaining the other three plates and using them in conjunction with the other plate already in the printing room. Thus, the fourth entry above does not represent a printing, and the fifth and sixth entries are printings from 480 electros each. The date of return of the single plate, 2.4.1898, may be an error for 2.3.1898, since on 3.3.1898 "480 electros" (i.e., all four plates) were taken from the strongroom.

2. The eighth entry represents a printing from only two plates, but Purves does not say which two. This is an interesting printing, because all copies have the watermark facing left (the list in *Victoria: The V over Crown Watermarks*, p. 22, therefore needs to be corrected). This precludes the usual "print and turn" technique employed where the paper was double the size of the printing medium, since this produces inverted wmk. The paper must have been cut in half, and all fed into the press the same way.

3. The tenth entry is a second printing from only two plates, but again the plates used are not known. For this printing the "print and turn" technique was used, since sideways to left and sideways to right watermarks are found in equal quantities.

Printings in Green

The change of colour of the ½d stamp to green came about in an attempt to get the colour scheme of Victorian stamps into line with the U.P.U. colour scheme. The stamp was issued on 1.8.1899. The colour change coincided very closely with the exhaustion of the V3 paper, and the introduction of the V4 paper (also of 480 wmk.), and the first printing consisted of stamps on both V3 and V4 paper. All subsequent printings were on V4 paper. There appear to have been seven printings (all from the four plates used together):

Date of Issue from Strongroom	Date of Return to Strongroom
18.7.1899	26.7.1899
16.11.1899	22.11.1899
2.2.1900	8.2.1900
11.4.1900	19.4.1900
28.6.1900	4.7.1900
7.8.1900	10.8.1900
22.11.1900	26.11.1900

The provisions of Federation meant that postal and fiscal revenue had to be separated. The next entry in the strongroom books is the issue on 7.12.1900 of "½d Postage Dies 240," returned on 11.1.1901. This is the first printing of the small ½d "No Postage", printed from the 1891 reprint plate. (The plate is termed "Postage" to distinguish it from the Stamp Duty plates, but should not be confused with the subsequently-prepared plates of the small ½d with "POSTAGE" in the design). The ½d Stamp Duty was withdrawn following the issue of the small ½d on 29.1.1901, but remained valid for postal use until 30.6.1901.

The Plates

The nomenclature of the three pairs of plates used is arbitrary, and their identity is dependent on the specific plate flaws they carry. Mr Purves left only fragmentary notes on this subject.

Plates 1 and 2 were probably coated electros (see *P. from A*, March 1972, p. 17), and these are philatelically the most interesting plates. There are two classes of plate varieties:

(i) those only clear in 1886-9 printings, consisting of white areas and weaknesses, and the result of an irregularity in the brass (?) coating on the electros. From 1889 different inks and a heavier make-ready meant that few if any of these showed up in the fuller-inked printed stamps.

(ii) those appearing in all printings from the time they arise. There are at least 35 quite prominent varieties.

Varieties on Plates 3-6 are much less numerous and less distinctive than on Plates 1 and 2. Altogether, there are about 30 on all four plates, plus some interesting "sub-types" found on Plates 3 and 5.

TARRENGOWER — AN UNOPENED OFFICE

By P. JAFFÉ, F.R.P.S.L.

Gold is where you find it, and the Victorian postal historian does well to examine his entires for manuscript office names.

A feature of a paid entire carried by *Champion of the Ocean* from Tower Street, London, on March 6, 1856, to Russell Street, Melbourne (arriving June 22) is the addition of Campbell and Fergusson 1d and 3d Half-Lengths to forward the letter to "Post Office, Tarrengower".

It reached Maldon on June 24, presumably the nearest office actually in operation, as against "projected, provided the gold holds out". The cover has inscribed on it a private note "all well, 2 letters by this post Eng^d", initialled and dated 2.6.56 (surely an error for 2.7.56, so the enclosed news about the Baltic timber import was satisfactory.

One can speculate on the patchy results from the Castlemaine area, the gold fever which drew the adventurers from Melbourne, and the frustrations of long-distance communication. The *James Baines* eventually arrived in Ireland on March 1, 1856; the London merchant had reported her failure to keep time in a letter by *Spray of the Ocean* dated February 21.

Tarrengower may have no other postal memorial.

QUEENSLAND POSTAL STATIONERY

By P. COLLAS, M.B.E., F.R.P.S.L.

Additions and amendments to the handbook, *Queensland Postal Stationery*, published by The Hawthorn Press, 1979.

p.4 18th line. Delete "1315" and insert "131.5" in lieu.

p.7 Add at end of seventh paragraph (which ends in "either 58 or 59mm.") the following sentence:

"Additionally, it has been found that four different arrangements can be determined by reason of varying positions of the coat of arms at left."

p.13 Add at end of fourth paragraph (which ends in "used example.") the following sentence:

"It is of interest that the envelope was listed in *Gibbons Postal Stationery Catalogue*, 1900 ed., the price then being indicated as 2d unused."

p.14 Immediately before the paragraph commencing "The fact is that . . ." insert new paragraph, as follows:

"One does find that the envelopes, as described in *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal*, were listed, for 1892, in the *Gibbons Postal Stationery Catalogue*, 1897 ed., and repeated in the 1900 ed. Significantly, they were never priced."

p.18 After fifth paragraph (ending in "Great Britain.") insert new paragraph, as follows:

"*Gibbons Postal Stationery Catalogue*, 1897 ed., listed, for 1892, a 1d wrapper, unpriced. The item never existed and was not included in the 1901 edition of the catalogue."

p.25 Following the third top line on page (ending in "is 12.") insert new paragraph, as follows:

"A slight change in one aspect of the letter card was subsequently made. I had been unaware of the variation until my attention was drawn to it by a well-known Bond Street firm of dealers. The change comprised the insertion of a redrawn version of the colony's arms on the back. Examination shows that the Maltese cross at the top is larger than before, the cow's head is very different and there is a gap in the shading on the lower right hand segment. Prominent also is the fact that the shading extends to 'X' of 'AUDAX' in the scroll at the base. It is thought that the change was made about the turn of the century. Dates of 12 December 1901 and 14 September 1902 are known on used examples, although these are not significantly helpful, so far as a possible time of issue is concerned. Cards known to the time of writing have paired perforations."

p.30 At end of third paragraph (ending in "such examples") insert new sentence, as follows:

"There is evidence — so far by way of a cut-out only — that envelopes bearing two side-by-side impressions of the 1d stamp did exist at one time. No covers have been reported to date."

p.32 3rd paragraph. Commencing in 4th line, after ". . . and Co. stock." delete the balance of the paragraph (commencing "It has not been possible . . ."). Insert the following in lieu:

"It has been ascertained that the number of envelopes supplied was 10,000. This quantity did not prove sufficient to meet public demand as in 1912 very similar envelopes, this time supplied by De La Rue and Co., London, were placed on sale."

- p.32 At bottom of page insert new paragraph, as follows:
 "It is to be remarked that the Post and Telegraph Department also utilized, from a quite early period, an official form of registered envelope bearing distinctive wording to indicate that it contained an unclaimed registered letter being returned to the sender. There were at least three types of such envelopes. They did not bear impressed or adhesive stamps when used. The rate of usage was probably very low and examples within the pre-Federal period are very scarce."
- p.34 At end of 5th paragraph (after "1903 issue.") insert new sentence, as follows:
 "A further aspect of the 1903 letter card is that the State coat of arms used on the back was a larger version of the revised arms noted in the relevant accompanying amendment to p.25."
- p.35 At end of second last paragraph (after "176 to 186mm.") insert new sentence, as follows:
 "Perforations in the single cards measure either 10 or 12½."
- p.36 At end of first paragraph (after "are evident") insert new sentence, as follows:
 "Two measures of perforation are known, 10 and 12½, the former being the scarcer."
- p.36 At end of second last paragraph (after "160 to 168mm.") insert new sentence, as follows:
 "Two measures of perforation are known, 10 and 12½."
- p.37 At end of third paragraph (after "June 1898.") insert new paragraph, as follows:
 "A note in the *Stamp Collectors Fortnightly*, 6 August 1898, informs that a Brisbane correspondent, in sending an example of the 1½d card, advised the date of issue of the 18 varieties as 24 June 1898. This date may possibly have similar relevance to the 1d cards."
- p.39 In the notes relevant to card No. 4 the word "top" in the first and third lines should be amended to read "Stop". In respect of the caption of card No. 8, "Charlesville" should be amended to read "Charleville."
- p.48 In the second line from the top of the page delete the sentence "These possibly completed the series" and insert, in lieu, the following:
 "Since publication, Mr B. Beston has advised two further cards with black and white scenes captioned respectively 'Neil Street, Toowoomba, Darling Downs, South Queensland,' and 'Iving Bank: a thriving mining Centre, North Queensland.' Again, Mr A. Campe showed me another relevant card captioned 'Bush House, Botanic Gardens, Rockhampton, Central Queensland.' Finally, from Dr P. Kornan is advice of two further cards, 'Stoney Creek Falls, Cairns Railway, Half Flood,' and 'Alice Street, Brisbane, Southern Queensland'."
- p.48 Second paragraph. Delete all that part of the paragraph commencing "Neither Mr Stieg . . ." and insert, in lieu, the following:
 "This card was earlier unknown to me. More recently, I saw an example in the collection of Mr B. Beston. The card would have had a very short life."
- p.48 Insert a new section, as follows, immediately before the present section headed *The 1d Card 1911*:

"A 1d Official Card 1909

A previously unrecorded item, which came to attention very recently, is a 1d post card, basically of the type of 1881-91, but with an impressed 1d stamp, SG Type 21. This combination was previously unknown. The further intriguing feature, unique so far as Queensland postal stationery is concerned, is that the stamp impression was punctured 'O S'. The back of the card indicated that it was a printed form of acknowledgement of letters sent to the Department of Public Lands, Brisbane. To

the time of writing three examples of the card have come to attention, the respective dates being 7 December 1909, 3 August and 15 December 1910. Cards of this type must fall into the categories of 'official', 'printed to order' and 'stamped to order'. It seems likely that the card was first introduced into use in 1909. There is also the possibility that other State government departments of the time may have used similar cards with differing printed matter on the reverse."

VICTORIAN FRANK STAMPS

By G. N. KELLOW

Additional information on several aspects of this subject has been received since the original article appeared in *P. from A.*, December 1981 and March and June 1982.

1. *Government Printer "Frank"* (Dec. 1981, p.96)

Although I feel it is still right to say this is not a frank stamp in the true sense, the Government Printer imprint was of postal significance, and permitted any article bearing it to travel free of postage. Mr M. V. Diserio has written explaining the background to this usage:

Section 15 of *The Post Office Statute* 1864 (27 Vict. No. 226), concerns the *Government Gazette*:

15. The Government Printer shall cause to be printed upon official covers for enclosing the *Government Gazette* the words "On Her Majesty's Service" with the title of the said newspaper and the imprint of the said printer and the said gazette when enclosed in one of the said covers and open at both ends shall (if received at the General Post Office from the office of the said printer but not otherwise) be exempt from postage.

A consideration of this section leads me to challenge some of the Rev. J. C. W. Brown's reasons (p.96) for having no doubts that the printer's imprint was not a frank stamp.

(i) There was a statutory authorization for its use, viz. s.15, and it was because of the use of the procedure prescribed by that section that the *Government Gazette* "needed no stamp to pass through the post".

(ii) Although the Government Printer was part of the Treasury "and would have no need of a frank stamp of his own" for the *Government Gazette* to go free, the use of the imprint was necessary, in accordance with s.15.

(iii) The existence of "wrappers known used for the posting of Parliamentary Debates and Parliamentary Papers in 1897-8, which would have been despatched by the Government Printer" which bear the frank stamp of the Treasurer is totally consistent with the two previous assertions. This type of mail had, since 15 Vict. No. 9 (1852) been, together with periodical publications, subject to postage fees. The *Government Gazette*, it would appear, fell within that section and would have also been subject to postage. This position was certainly changed by s.15 of the 1864 Act. However, the position of Parliamentary Papers was not changed and was covered in s. 10 of the 1864 Act, the relevant part being:

10. The following and no others may be sent by post as town, country and foreign packets within the meaning of this Act (that is to say) —

5. Packets in covers open at each end containing Acts of the Victorian or Imperial Parliaments as printed votes and proceedings of either house thereof respectively or returns or copies of returns made by or to any officer in the public service.

However, by s. 14 of the same Act, "if every letter and packet 'On Her Majesty's Service' and so described on the outside thereof if . . . impressed with a frank stamp . . . shall be exempt from postage".

Whilst I would agree with the comment that this "frank" was John Ferres' imprint, it is not correct in my view to call it a "trade advertisement".

2. *Franking Power of the Frank Stamps* (Dec. 1981, p. 96)

Messrs M. B. Watson, M. Williamson and G. R. Linfield have sent details of franked covers to overseas destinations:

- (i) Governor to Ceylon, 2.1.1873. No stamps added.
- (ii) Chief Secretary to Paris, 6.11.1893. 2½d stamp added (single rate to foreign country).
- (iii) Postmaster General to London, 18.5.1896. No stamp added.
- (iv) Minister of Defence to New York, 18.10.1896. 2½d stamp added (single rate to foreign country).
- (v) Postmaster General to Berne (registered), 20.5.1901. ½d and 5d stamps added (3d registration and 2½d single rate to foreign country).
- (vi) Postmaster General to Paris (registered), 20.11.1901. Pair 4d stamps added (3d registration and 5d double rate to foreign country).
- (vii) Minister of Lands and Survey to Trinidad, 19.5.1902. 2½ stamp added (single rate to foreign country, because sent via New York?).

Together with the evidence presented previously, no pattern seems to be emerging, unless it be that prepayment (including registration) of overseas mail was only permissible in the case of Empire destinations.

3. *Additions to the Catalogue*

The additional data below has been supplied by Messrs G. R. Linfield, K. Scudder and L. C. Viney.

CHIEF SECRETARY (Mar. 1982, p. 16).

Die 4 (iii) violet — early date 28.6.1879.

COMMANDER OF H.M. SEA FORCES (Mar. 1982, p. 18).

(ii) red — this colour is confirmed by Mr G. R. Linfield, who has a mint envelope, and has seen a used cut-out.

GOVERNOR OF VICTORIA (Mar. 1982, p. 19).

Die 2 (i) black — early date 2.1.1873.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL (Mar. 1982, p. 19).

Now reported in (ii) violet 22.6.1901.

MINISTER OF HEALTH (Jun. 1982, p. 39).

Printed (i) black — early date 6.10.1892.

MINISTER OF MINES (Jun. 1982, p. 40).

Handstamped Die 2 (i) blue — on postcard, 23.5.1889.

Printed Die 2 (ii) black — on postcard, 29.8.1892.

THE PRESIDENT, LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (Jun. 1982, p. 41).

Printed (i) red — three shades can be identified: carmine (date seen 11.9.1895), pinkish red (8.11.1895, 27.2.1896), orange-red (4.10.1900).

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (Jun. 1982, p. 42).

Printed Die 3 (i) black — an example is reported of the use of remainders after their discontinuation. The envelope has a 2d OS adhesive affixed over the frank, and used 15.7.1903.

ROYAL MINT (Jun. 1982, p. 42).

(ii) red — dated copy 17.4.1896.

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND CUSTOMS (Jun. 1982, p. 43).

Handstamped (i) red — five copies reported 27.11.1895-22.1.1896.

Handstamped — now reported in (iii) blue 11.12.1895.

VICTORIA: THE "EMBLEMS" ISSUE OF 1857-1863

REVISIONS TO THE WORK BY J. R. W. PURVES PUBLISHED IN 1957

By D. DAVIES, F.R.P.S.L.

Whilst examining the "Purves" Victoria collection, by kind permission of Robson Lowe, I came across two references to the "Emblems" which will interest fellow collectors of this issue. In both cases Bill corrects certain assumptions made in his book, following further study into the papers used during this era.

The first reference relates to the 2d printings of 1857. Bill freely admits to having made a most curious (and un-Purves-like!) error on p.19 of the book where he postulated the make-up of the printed sheet to be 20 blocks of 6 (2 x 3). Numerous multiples leave no doubt that the block was "2 wide" and the dimensions of the sheet were 12 x 10. However, that being so, a height of 3 stamps would not, of course, divide into a height of 10 stamps! It now seems certain that the block was of 10 stamps, 2 x 5. Vertical pieces in the "Purves" collection offer no proof one way or the other save that horizontal gutters (probably from the centre of the sheet) can be found.

It is certainly astonishing that this glaring anomaly was not picked up by any of the "Emblems" converts before Purves himself spotted the error some 20 odd years after the book was published.

The other reference concerned a revised assessment of the number printed of 1d bright greens on "Bordeaux" paper (S.G. 93).

On p.48 of the "Emblems" book Bill expressed the opinion that all the 1d "Emblems" printed in 1860 before July (a total of 840,000) were printed on the "Bordeaux" paper. This judgement now needs modification in the light of the following considerations. In 1860 the last delivery into stock of the 4d "Emblems" on laid paper took place on 23.3.60 (see p.47). The first delivery of the 4d "Beaded Oval", on "Bordeaux" paper, into stock place on 20.4.60; the earliest known dates being 21.4.60 for the 4d "Beaded Oval", and for the 1d "Emblems" on the same paper, 25.5.60.

It can fairly be assumed on these facts that the laid paper had been exhausted before the printing of the 4d "Beaded Oval" was commenced. From that it follows that all printings of the 1d "Emblems" made after 20.4.60 but before the first delivery into stock of the "ONE PENNY" paper on 16.7.60 must have been on the "Bordeaux" paper. For a list of these see p.48 of the book.

It therefore seems likely that the first three 1860 deliveries into stock of the 1d "Emblems" (totalling 240,000 stamps) were on laid paper, and that the following nine deliveries (totalling 600,000 stamps) were all on "Bordeaux" paper. This cannot be regarded as certain since the third delivery of 60,000 1d stamps delivered into stock on 14.4.60 could conceivably have been printed on either paper. This 1d delivery immediately preceded that of the 4d "Beaded Oval" on 20.4.60.

As a result of the foregoing the figures set out on p.49 of the book need revising as follows: the total given for the "Bordeaux" 1d's of 1860, viz. 840,000 must be reduced by at least 180,000 (possibly 240,000), and that a corresponding addition must be made to the total given for the 1d "Emblems" on wove and laid papers, viz. 1,139,880.

QUEENSLAND TRAVELLING POST OFFICES — GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY

By J. P. MEARA

In recent months I have had opportunity to peruse the archival volumes of Working Time Tables of Queensland Railways with a view to ascertaining to which trains the T.P.O. vans were attached. The S&W are not available before 8.3.1885, Central before 4.1.1893; but the G.N.R., North Coast and Cairns railways are complete.

Unfortunately, not in all instances does the "T.P.O." notation appear, but in the introduction to G.N.R. timetables for the most part, the train number, stations between and days of attachment of T.P.O. are specifically stated.

The G.N.R. beyond Hughenden extended first to Corfield, then to Winton by 26.7.1899; and to Richmond 1.9.1904, then Cloncurry 12.10.1908. Rail services generally were scheduled between Townsville and Charters Towers with connecting mixed trains (i.e., goods and passenger) thence to Hughenden, and beyond that place goods trains with a passenger van attached, but there were some through passenger/mail trains. All these were utilized in varying combinations for the T.P.O., to meet adequate postal requirements and to permit of convenient T.P.O. van working from and to Townsville.

From the information in the timetables, the T.P.O.'s which commenced on 15.5.1899 and ceased 14.9.1932, certainly worked beyond Hughenden. In the appended tabulation the type of train has not been given, only the days the T.P.O. was attached and the pertinent departure and arrival times, but bear in mind two or three connecting trains were used, even overnight connections. The dates shown are those on which the revised timetables became operative.

Brief details of the T.P.O. vans conclude this segment.

If postal records also were available to confirm to what sections the c.d.s. T.P.O. Nos 1 and 2 UP/DOWN were actually allocated, I am sure H.M. Campbell would be pleased to enrich the information in Chapter XI (e) pp 94-5 of his publication, *Queensland Cancellations and Other Postal Markings 1860-1913* (Hawthorn Press, 1977).

UP from TOWNSVILLE				:	DOWN to TOWNSVILLE			
T.P.O. attd	Tville dep.	Hughenden arr./dep.	Destn arr.		T.P.O. attd	Origin dep.	Hughenden arr./dep.	Tville arr.
1.6.1899 — TOWNSVILLE-CORFIELD								
			Corfield			Corfield		
M.W.F.	7.20am	..	10.35pm	:	Tu.Th.Sa	6.35am	..	9.45pm
26.7.1899 — TOWNSVILLE-WINTON								
			Winton			Winton		
M.W.F.	7.20am	..	12.25am	:	Tu.Th.Sa	5.30am	..	9.45pm
			-next day					
4.2.1901 — TOWNSVILLE-HUGHENDEN/WINTON								
			Winton			Winton		
Mon	7.20am	6.05/25pm	12.25am		Tues	5.30am	..	9.45pm
We.Fr.	7.20am	6.05pm	..		Th.Sa.	..	11.05am	9.45pm
7.10.1901 — TOWNSVILLE-HUGHENDEN (Curtilment)								
Mo.We.	7.20am	8.25pm	..	:	Mo.Tu.	..	8.00am	9.45pm
Fr.Sa.					Th.Sa.			

T.P.O. Tville Ch.Twrs Hugh'den R'mond : T.P.O. R'mond Hugh'den Ch.Twrs Tville
 attd dep. arr/dep. arr/dep. arr. attd dep. arr/dep. arr/dep. arr.

1.4.1902

Mon. 7.20am 7.35pm . . Tue. . . 9.30am 9.45pm
 We.Sa. 7.20am 8.25pm . . Th.Mo. . . 8.00am 9.45pm

4.1.1904 — T.P.O. trains not indicated. There was one altered day in the four mixed services each way per week between Charters Towers and Hughenden, but reasonable to assume tri-weekly T.P.O. working, e.g.:

Mo.We.Sa. 7.20am 8.30pm . . : We.Th.Mo. . . 8.15am 9.45pm

1.6.1904 — TOWNSVILLE-HUGHENDEN-RICHMOND

The line was opened to Richmond from this date with a schedule of three goods trains with passenger van attached each way per week between Hughenden and Richmond. Although timetable contains no T.P.O. reference, it is probable the T.P.O. was extended to Richmond from this date, or from the date of next revision on 3.10.1904 with similar schedules to Richmond.

Two T.P.O. vans Nos 13 and 14 both fitted with mail arms were available, also P.O. Auxilliary CC3651, and if this was the T.P.O. extension date, the tri-weekly service continuing on from Hughenden was feasible using vans 13 and 14, viz:

			Richmond :		Richmond		
Mon.	7.00am	5.25/ 6.20pm	11.35pm	Tue.	1.15pm	6.30pm	. .
				Wed.	. .	7.35am	9.40pm
Wed.	7.00am	8.10pm	. .	Thu.	1.15pm	6.30pm	. .
Thu.	. .	6.00am	11.15am	Fri.	. .	7.35am	9.40pm
Fri.	7.00am	8.10pm	. .	Mon.	4.30am	9.45/ 10.25am	9.40pm
Sat.	. .	6.00am	11.15am				

If the T.P.O. was bi-weekly it probably would have been UP Monday and Friday; DOWN Tuesday and Monday.

7.2.1909 — TOWNSVILLE-HUGHENDEN-RICHMOND (Cloncurry opened 12.10.1908)

No indication to which trains T.P.O. attached. In view of later tables it appears unlikely T.P.O.'s worked beyond Richmond, and below are the probable frequencies as they are rather similar to those confirmed in the next issue of the timetable from 30.4.1911.

Mon.	7.00am	8.10pm	. .	Wed.	4.15pm	8.30pm	. .
Tue.	. .	7.00am	11.00am	Thu.	. .	7.45am	9.40pm
Fri.	7.00am	8.10pm	. .	Sun.	5.45pm	9.20pm	. .
Sat.	. .	5.45am	10.00am	Mon.	. .	7.45am	9.40pm

30.4.1911 — (T.P.O. specified).

Mon.	7.00am	8.20pm	. .	Wed.	4.15pm	8.20pm	. .
Tue.	. .	7.25am	10.45am	Thu.	. .	7.45am	9.40pm
Fri.	7.00am	8.20pm	. .	Sun.	5.45pm	9.20pm	. .
Sat.	. .	5.55am	10.10am	Mon.	. .	7.45am	9.40pm

21.7.1913; 11.5.1915; 1.11.1915; 16.8.1916; 12.11.1916

During 1913 and 1915, no T.P.O. reference in timetables, but shown in 1916. Apart from slight variations in departure and arrival times between Hughenden and Richmond and vice versa, the T.P.O. frequency was as for 1911.

17.6.1917 — TOWNSVILLE-HUGHENDEN-RICHMOND (bi-weekly)

From this date the T.P.O. workings commenced to vary before gradual curtailment.

Mon.	7.00am	. .	8.25pm	. .	Wed.	4.50pm	9.00/30pm	6.25am	. .
Tue.	. .	. .	7.05am	10.25am	Thu.	. .	. .	7.40am	12.35pm

T.P.O. attd	Tville dep.	Hughenden arr./dep.	Richmond : arr.	T.P.O. attd	Richmond dep.	Hughenden arr./dep.	Tville arr.
Fri.	7.00am	8.25pm	2.00am	Sun.	5.45pm	9.20pm	..
		10.10pm		Mon.	..	7.35am	9.50pm

30.6.1918 — Once weekly to each RICHMOND and HUGHENDEN

Mon.	7.00am	10.55am	..	Wed.	4.50pm	..	6.40am	..
		11.55pm	..	Thu.	..	..	7.45am	12.40pm
Sat.	7.00am	8.25pm	..	Sun.	..	9.20pm	4.15am	..
				Mon.	..	..	5.50pm	9.50pm

11.7.1920

Mon.	8.00pm	..	11.20am	Wed.	5.40pm	..	7.20am	..
				Thu.	..	..	7.45am	1.00pm
Sat.	7.00am	8.40pm	..	Sun.	..	10.10pm	5.15am	..
				Mon.	..	..	5.35pm	9.50pm

4.9.1921

Mon.	5.00pm	..	9.50am	Wed.	6.10pm	10.45pm	..	..
					11.25pm	..	3.00pm	..
Wed.	7.00am	8.40pm	..	Fri.	..	10.50pm	..	10.00am

On 14.6.1922 T.P.O. van No. 14 was damaged beyond repair near Barabon 1 1/4 miles east of Richmond and condemned. This left No. 13 only in service and possibly the CC Aux. was utilised, but the T.P.O. apparently was temporarily curtailed to Hughenden.

16.10.1922 — TOWNSVILLE-HUGHENDEN

Mon.	8.00pm	7.10am	..	??	Return	working	not	indicated
Wed.	7.00am	8.40pm	..	Fri.	..	8.45pm	..	8.25am

6.5.1923 — TOWNSVILLE-HUGHENDEN-RICHMOND (Weekly to each)

Mon.	8.00pm	..	Tu 11.20am	Wed.	6.10pm	..	Th 2.50pm	
Wed.	7.00am	8.40pm	..	Fri.	..	8.45pm	..	Sa 8.25am

2.12.1923 — TOWNSVILLE-RICHMOND (weekly)

Mon.	9.40am	..	1.15am Tu	Thu.	5.15pm	..	8.30am F	
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1.6.1924

Mon.	9.40am	..	1.15am Tu	Tue.	6.35pm	11.10/50pm	4.10pm W	
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10.12.1924

Mon.	9.40am	..	1.15am Tu	tue.	2.55am	7.45am		
						? connection to Tville		

11.10.1925

Mon.	9.40am	..	1.35am Tu	Tue.	12.30am	5.00am		
						? connection to Tville		

In the above four timetables the UP journey was by 34 Mail Townsville to Cloncurry. The return of the T.P.O. van was by 31 DOWN Mail Cloncurry to Townsville from 2.12.1923, but subsequently the van was attached to goods trains the connections from Hughenden not being indicated.

19.9.1926 — TOWNSVILLE-HUGHENDEN (reduction — weekly)

Mon.	5.45am	8.40pm	..	Wed.	..	7.00am	6.35pm	
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Late 1926, T.P.O. No. 13 due for overhaul was found unfit for use and T.P.O. No. 363 was transferred from Southern Division November, 1926, as replacement. With minor alterations to schedules, the above timetable was maintained until May, 1930.

25.5.1930 — TOWNSVILLE-TORRENS CREEK (curtailment — weekly)

Tue.	12.00noon	Trns Ck 12.00MN	..	Wed	..	Trns Ck 9.35am	6.00pm	
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T.P.O. attd	Tville dep.	Hughenden arr./dep.	Destn arr.	T.P.O. attd	Richmond dep.	Hughenden arr./dep.	Tville arr.
28.9.1930	and	22.5.1932	to cessation	14.9.1932			
Tue.	11.00am	11.25pm	. .	Wed	. .	8.00am	4.30pm

T.P.O. VANS USED ON G.N.R.

Nos 13 and 14: Composite bogie vans 33 ft long, 7 ft 6 ins wide, tare 11T 5c. with first and second for 22 passengers, built Ipswich Workshops 1883. Both fitted with mail-arms and operated initially on S&W Railway.

Transferred to G.N.R. No. 13 on 8.5.1899; No. 14 on 2.12. 1899.

Late 1900 or early 1901 both modified at Townsville Workshops to no accommodation with space available wholly for postal purposes 208 sq. ft.

No. 14 was damaged beyond repair in a derailment of 54 up (Townsville-Cloncurry Mail) at 285¼ miles near Barabon (1¼ miles east of Richmond) 14.6.1922 written off August, 1922.

No. 13 in late 1926 became due for overhaul and found unfit for use. Condemned 25.1.1927.

No. 363: Composite bogie van 45 ft long, 7 ft 8 ins wide, tare 14T 10c with second class for 16 passengers, built Toowoomba Foundry and delivered May, 1899. Altered 1924 to no accommodation, area for postal purposes 212 sq. ft. Operated initially on S&W and North Coast Railways.

Given running repairs Ipswich Workshops 26.11.1926 and sent Townsville to replace No. 13.

Converted to baggage car 1934, brake van 1936, written off 27.9.1946.

CC3651: A bogie wagon 31 ft long, 7 ft wide, tare 9T. 4c. built by Phoenix Engineering Co., Ipswich and placed into service 29.7.1893.

This class were convertible for either goods or passengers having six windows on each side and when utilised as necessary for holiday traffic or special excursions, seats were fitted for passengers.

In 1902 was fitted up at Townsville Workshops as an Auxilliary T.P.O. and was so listed until 1.3.1925. Converted to Camp Wagon 1939, whereabouts unknown, but not written off to date.

To what extent it was used as a T.P.O. is not known, but it may have substituted when 13 or 14 were withdrawn for overhaul, or as required, e.g. late 1922-1923. On some days, particularly Mondays, the T.P.O. vans crossed en route, nevertheless, diagram analysis of train schedules suggests the two regular vans were sufficient to maintain the round trip T.P.O. services.

BOOK REVIEWS

The Revenue Stamps of Queensland, by W. D. Craig. 36 pp. 21 x 29.5cm. Published by Revenue and Railstamps Publications, Box 1248M, G.P.O. Hobart, 7001. Price \$5, post paid.

These loose leaf sheets are the first part of a work entitled *The Revenue and Railway Stamps of Australia*, under the general editorship of Mr. Craig.

They consist of a priced and annotated catalogue of Queensland revenue stamps, 1866 to the present day. For items where it has been

difficult to assign a value, rarity ratings are indicated. All issues are covered, including adhesive Stamp Duty issues, impressed Duty stamps, Beer Duty stamps, and stamps for Unemployment Relief and Agricultural and Pastoral Taxes.

The work is of some interest to postage stamp collectors, since the 1866, 1871, 1878 and 1892 adhesive Stamp Duty issues were authorised for postal use between 1880 and 1892.

Included with the Queensland sheets are covers and an introduction to the larger work.

New Zealand Skeleton Relief Datestamps 1925-1980, by A. Jackson. 150 pp. 21 x 29.5cm. Published by the Postal History Society of New Zealand, Inc., Box 25-105, St. Heliers, Auckland, N.Z. Price, \$NZ12.50, plus \$2 postage.

After an introduction covering the types of skeleton postmarks and their usage, the major portion of this book is devoted to a check list of all the different P.O.'s recorded, and their dates of use. The majority of this information has been acquired by collectors "in the field". The P.O. Records provide accurate periods of use for less than half the entries.

Before the introduction of relief datestamps in 1925, mail was either cancelled in manuscript, or

left uncanceled and postmarked on arrival at the receiving office. The N.Z. types follow the British pattern of assembly of office names from loose type, rather than the Australian style of the use of fixed datestamps inscribed "Relief". The use of this system gives rise to occasional errors of spelling and variations in layout, and these are fully tabulated.

One relief of species interest to Australian collectors is one for Auckland of 17 FE 34. Several varieties of this exist, and they were used for the "rush job" of cancelling the Trans-Tasman flight covers.

This is the 17th handbook published by the Postal History Society of N.Z.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

Falkland Islands

Mr E. G. Creed, F.R.P.S.L., presented a display of Falkland Islands at the meeting of February 17th.

The Colony was dealt with up to the end of King George V's reign, and the opening page showed one of the famous "Franks" on piece.

The Queen Victoria Bradbury Wilkinson plates were covered in detail, with various pantograph varieties highlighted to demonstrate their method of manufacture.

The copies of the 1891 ½d on half 1d surcharge included one with surcharge inverted, also an unsevered pair used on piece.

The Edwardian and Georgian series were shown complete mint, and included many of the rare shade varieties, such as the 2d KEVII reddish purple and 5/- Centenary. There was also a copy of the 1929 South Georgia provisional.

Covers were a feature and demonstrated the varied postal history of the islands. There was a 1911 cover from the German Antarctic Expedition, and one with a 2½d KEVII cancelled with the Deception Is. oval rubberstamp. One of the rarest items shown was a cover with a pair of 1d KEVII's with the South Georgia underprint beneath (on the cover, as it should have been).

New Zealand Chalon Heads

At the March 17th meeting of the Society Mr J. S. White, F.R.P.S.L. journeyed from Sydney to display his well-known collection of New Zealand

Chalon Heads. Outstanding fresh colours, light postmarks and wide margins were a notable feature.

The 1862 1d and 2d imperf. Davies printings were in mint blocks of four, and the 1867 3d perf. 12½ was shown in a mint block of 8.

Used pieces included a strip of 8 of the 1862 1d orange, a strip of six of the 1862 1/- perf. 13, and a copy of the 1871 2d plate II perf. 10 x 12½, one of only four in existence.

Postal history was a prominent feature. There was an 1858 cover from Port Victoria to Auckland bearing 1d and 2d chalons, showing the 1d local rate and the 2d general internal rate.

Of particular interest were the Maori War covers of 1864. One was postmarked "Queen's Redoubt" (the site of the Army Camp at Pokeno), and another bore the "Headquarters" postmark, which was a moving post office.

The display of proofs and specimens included a number of reprinted die proofs, including those printed for the menu cards of the Herts Philatelic Society.

Union of South Africa

Mr D. G. Cox presented a display of the stamps of the Union of South Africa at the Society's meeting on March 31st.

The display commenced with examples of the provincial stamps used "interprovincially" from the establishment of the Union in 1910 until the introduction of a uniform series in 1913. The P.O.

deliberately distributed mixed supplies of the provincial stamps to its postmasters.

A superb range of the 1913 King George V series was featured, including shades, printing flaws and specimens.

Amongst the postmarks shown were ones used in the 1930's at separate sections of post offices to serve non-Europeans; they were inscribed "Non-E".

Also featured was a 1957 Railway Letter Post cover, which was an emergency postal system operated by the railways for the late acceptance and conveyance of mail. A cover from Marion Island, in the sub-Antarctic, was sent by the South African annexation party which visited the island in 1947/8.

Postal stationery displayed included a 1944 Christmas Air Letter used by South African troops in North Africa, and 1950/52 overprinted aerogrammes for use by troops serving in the Korean War.

Nicaraguan Airmails

For the April 21st display, Dr D. A. Pocock,

F.R.P.S.L., sent over from Perth a display of Nicaraguan Airmails, accompanied by a cassette commentary. He cheerfully admitted taking up collecting this unusual field after bidding in an auction for what he thought was a North Borneo lot!

In Dr Pocock's words Nicaragua had committed "every crime in the philatelic handbook, and are still doing the same thing". However, some of the earlier airmail issues are comparatively rare as printings were as few as 1,000 to 2,000, and some errors are unique. One example of these small printings in the display was the 1932 Rivas Railroad Inauguration issue which comprised four large pictorials — only 1,000 of each stamp were produced.

The first airmail issue was a 1929 overprint for a Pan Am test flight linking Central America, the Caribbean and northern South America. Numerous issues and overprints followed, even though there was little commercial mail to justify this.

One aspect of special interest was Nicaraguan stamps which were initialled by post office staff before they were issued to the public.

R.N.B.

VICTORIA BARRED NUMERALS

The following numbers are sought, and any assistance by way of exchange or purchase will be generously acknowledged.

234	653	1319	1470	1660	1856
248	709	1322	1474	1666	1860
261	721	1329	1482	1682	1881
281	747	1333	1486	1691	1890
306	751	1334	1500	1692	1913
337	766	1340	1510	1731	1922
359	791	1341	1515	1737	1927
376	800	1348	1523	1742	1936
391	812	1359	1529	1757	1955
436	848	1360	1544	1767	1986
511	918	1369	1549	1768	2038
523	957	1373	1550	1778	2053
529	959	1376	1561	1780	2061
598	994	1386	1563	1781	2064
628	1001	1406	1581	1782	2076
629	1049	1433	1602	1802	2079
630	1089	1436	1603	1807	2093
635	1207	1439	1613	1813	2094
637	1255	1452	1616	1822	2096
650	1310	1465	1625	1855	

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